Voting in the online age

As social media continues to be a driving force in the American lifestyle, its influence has become a significant game changer in both federal and state elections, especially for politicians courting young voters. Over the last decade social media usage has skyrocketed. The two largest social networks, Facebook now at 1.23 billion monthly active users and Twitter with 232 million monthly active users, have been assimilated into our daily routine. This trend certainly holds true for Bucks students, as many students walk the campus tuned in to their cell phones and other mobile devices.

“My social media addiction is just to stay up to date,” said Jessica Serben, 18, an early education major from Yardley. 

Marmonee Cooper, 21, a journalism major from Levittown said, “I use social media very often to see if I’m missing out on anything.”

According to CIRCLE, the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, 66 percent of youth with any college experience turned out to vote in the 2012 elections, making college students a key demographic for candidates to win over in the upcoming election on Nov. 4.

Social media appears to be the best means for candidates to get their name and message out to young voters, a sizable portion of the voting population. According to CIRCLE’s analysis of census data, “young people represent about 21 percent of the voting-eligible population.”

Continued on pg. 2
Congressmen face off
Continued from Filipicke vs Strouse pg 1

The candidates were also asked to express their views on state and fed-
eral laws surrounding same-sex marriage.

“The issue of mar-
riage, I’ve always be-
lieved and have said it
back in 2006, that this is
an issue for the states to
decide, and states will
decide it,” said Fitz-
patrick.

On the other hand, Strouse said, “We need to move forward in history. If there are two people
who love and are com-
nitted to each other, let
them get married, and
let’s focus on more im-
portant things like how
we’re going to restore the
class middle.”

The candidates then
clarified where they each
stood on the legalization
of marijuana.

Fitzpatrick said he be-
lieves it is gateway drug
for some individuals and
he fears legalization
would make things worse
for our country’s current
drug problem.

“The idea that we
would encourage young
Americans to be able to
purchase marijuana and
reduce the penalties for
doing so is going to in-
troduce more drug and
for treatment facilities,”
said Fitzpatrick.

Strouse said that he sup-
ports the decriminaliza-
tion of marijuana and
explained that states such
as Washington and Col-
orado give us the oppor-
tunity to see what
happens when marijuana is
legalized.

He went on to explain
that “it’s more of a crimi-
nal justice problem.

“We’re throwing way to
many men in prison for
non-violent crimes, and
that’s where they learn to
be violent criminals,”
“strouse admitted that he
was concerned over the
complexity of the law
and feels it needs to be
simplified. He said he
also believes that health-
care inflation is a huge
problem that should be
addressed. Despite these concerns, he added, “There have been good aspects of this law. At least 7,400 more
people in this district have gotten health insur-
ce as a result of the Af-
ordable Care Act.”

“We need to reorient
how we provide care in
the country, where the
emphasis is on quality,
not just quantity of care,” said Strouse.

Pezza concluded the de-
bate urging students to
get involved in the politi-
cal process.

The League of Women
Voters is hoping to get
more people voting at
this upcoming election.

“They’re striving for a 55
percent turnout,” said
Pezza. “It’s ridiculous
that we have to strive for
such a number. We need
a higher number, so
please do your best to
vote.”

Pezza said, “We are
proud of our student in-
volvelement in current
and past campaigns for
both parties. If you’re a stu-
dent out there and would
like to get involved in the
political process, get
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you’re working, please
contact me to do so.”

Continued from Voting in the on-
line app pg 1

As a result, candidates
now link their Facebook
page, their Twitter ac-
count, and YouTube to
their campaign website.

“My news feed is
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on the elections and I
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aware of these issues
without social media,” said
Mikaela Wendel, 19, an
early education major
from Fairless Hills.

For candidates trying
to reach young voters, on-
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Candidates have huge ex-
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them better informed,”
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Not only is social media
impacting the decisions of
already registered vot-
ers, it’s also drawing in
new voters, through cam-
paigns urging young people
to register to vote.

Photo credit: Kristof Phillips

College Events
October 30: Halloween celebration: The celebration will be held in the Gallagher Room. It begins at 12 p.m. and ends at 2 a.m.

November 6: Super Smash Bros. Project M. Tournament from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Gallagher Room.

November 7: Zombie Run: Taking place at the Lower Bucks Campus from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

November 8: Storytelling: Kim Ad-
doinec and Hayden Saun-
er in the Orangery at 7:30 p.m.

November 15: 50th Anniversary Alumni Ex-
hibition Reception: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Bucks Art Center Gallery. Gallery cont-
ains work from Bucks alums. The gallery is free and open to the public.

November 17: Jazz Celebration Big Band Concert: begins at 8 p.m. in the Gateway Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

Social media and voting

Photo credit: Kristof Phillips

Photo credit: Maria Mattiotti

Letter Policy
Letters should be limited to 200 words. They will be ed-
ted for spelling and malicious or libelous statements, and
may be edited for space. Let-
ters must include the
writer’s full name, address,
and telephone number. The
address and telephone num-
bers will not be published.

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Kristol Phillips
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Centurion staff

Election 2014

Republicican incumbent Mike Fitzpatrick

Pezza also asked the candidates. “We are now four and one half years into the Affordable
Healthcare Act, where do we go from here?”

Fitzpatrick said he be-
lieved it had some great
intentions, but it should be
repealed and replaced.

“It did more harm than
good.”

“Has it worked the way
it was designed? The an-
swer is a resounding no,”
said Fitzpatrick.

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was concerned over the
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and feels it needs to be
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paigns urging young people
to register to vote.
On Nov. 4 registered voters will be practicing their constitutional right to vote, yet some question how much weight a vote carries in a two-party system, as constituents of third parties feel their voices go unheard.

In a two-party system the majority party and minority party dominate politics—in the U.S., the Republicans and Democrats. In our political landscape, the majority party, the party with the greatest influence over legislation, changes every two to four years as control over the House, Senate and presidency shifts. This usually goes unquestioned by the general public, but not everyone is content with this system. “My opinion of the two-party system is that the idea is flawed,” said Gregory Pezza, a professor of Political Science at Bucks. “Nowhere in the Constitution is there any reference to a two-party system. It is not mandated by law. It was a good idea at first. Now, it is just a reality of politics in this country.”

Our two-party system is a product of our electoral system known as first-past-the-post (FPTP), where the candidate with the most votes wins. This type of electoral system favors the most powerful parties as voters will be more likely to vote for a favored candidate than gamble away their vote on a long shot candidate. This is commonly referred to as tactical voting.

The alternative to a single-winner vote, FPTP, are the multiple-winner methods. These include proportional method, semi-proportional method and majoritarian methods, and are used by most modern democracies. Many believe that parties falling under the umbrella title of “Third Party”, such as the Libertarian Party, the Green Party, and the Constitution Party, are treated very unfairly during any election. “It effects the other parties,” said Pezza “because these parties are never taken seriously. Mostly because of money. They can’t peak because they don’t have enough money.”

When it comes to these third parties, the people involved with them feel left out and treated unfairly. “No matter how much I complain as a Libertarian, no one cares in a political realm” said Bradley Cooper, Bucks County’s Chairman of the Libertarian Party. Cooper, a very vocal supporter of the Libertarian ideology, said of his party “In short words, we stand for minimal government and maximum freedom. Many of our core beliefs are taken right from the Constitution. We take a little from the left and the right.”

In Bucks County alone, a recent poll from the Pennsylvania Department of State reads a voter registration with about 187,000 Democratic voters, 175,000 Republican voters, 39,000 unaffiliated voters, and only about 3,200 Libertarian voters. Cooper also spoke of how the two main parties treat his and other third parties. “The two parties [Republican and Democrat] have been in power for a very long time. Because of this, getting your name on a ballot is a tremendous problem. The two parties need less votes than the third parties to get on the ballot. For us, it is very hard to get 16,000 signatures minimum. It’s a hindrance toward us.”

“The Democrats and Republicans don’t want us. They’ll blame us for taking away votes. That’s a reason we’re not on the ballot. They use lawyers and make up rules that stop us from even trying to get into the election,” said Cooper. He feels his party has been thrown to the side, and says the two party system “is the worst thing for America because it doesn’t give the citizens a good choice for what they want. They aren’t given the choice of other candidates.”
Strouse runs for the House

The Democratic challenger hopes to unseat the Republican incumbent Mike Fitzpatrick

BY: MARIA MATTOTTI  
Centurion Staff

Democratic challenger, Kevin Strouse, in his run for the 8th District congressional seat, has made affordable higher education the centerpiece of his campaign. Lowering student debt and making tuition costs affordable is a key piece in Strouse’s agenda. He believes the government should support new investment approaches to reduce the financial burden placed on students and their families.

Strouse’s main concern over education funding is that many families are experiencing a drop in household income while tuition costs continue to rise. “No child who gets into college and wants to go should be denied that opportunity,” said Strouse. Strouse claims that fast-tracking bachelor’s degrees, increasing the use of online learning, and investing in employment and apprenticeship programs are critical to improving higher education. “I went to college through the GI Bill, and I want all Pennsylvanians to have the same access to a quality education that I had,” said Strouse. Strouse’s family has a history of military service. Both of his grandfathers served in World War II and his father fought in Vietnam. Deciding to follow their legacy, Strouse left for training as an Army Ranger in Ft. Benning, Georgia, after graduating Columbia University in 2001 with a degree in literature.

Strouse completed three tours in Afghanistan and one tour in Iraq with the soldiers. After Strouse finished his service in 2004, he joined the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for nine years. In 2009, he graduated from Georgetown University in Washington D.C. with a master’s degree in security studies. Strouse currently works for the American Foreign Service as a program director of Teach2Serve, an educational program with the mission to inspire and educate participating high school students. Along with college improvements, he values the importance of early education advancements and identifying needed improvements. Strouse supports Tom Wolf’s plan to restore a billion dollars to fund schools in Pennsylvania.

“Providing every child access to early, quality education would go a long way to helping us compete in the 21st century global economy and reduce inequality,” said Strouse. Strouse believes that putting more time into finding teachers with advanced qualifications, thoroughly funding special education and keeping classroom resources up to date are needed in order to strengthen our education system. “We must also recoup teaching to meet the challenges of a 21st Century economy, with a greater emphasis on science, technology, and math—without merely ‘teaching to the test,’ said Strouse.

Strouse believes that the 8th District has potential for growth, expressed by building a Middle Class – his plan includes strategies to improve the education by creating a universal Pre-K, ending high-stakes testing, and making college more affordable; improve infrastructure by passing a multi-year highway bill, investing in a 21st century smart grid, and creating a national infrastructure bank; help small businesses succeed by simplifying the tax code, reauthorizing the export-import bank; and supporting a fair wage.

• Protecting Women’s Rights – he is in favor of a woman’s right to choose and funding for Planned Parenthood. He is against employers restricting a woman’s access to affordable birth control.

• Washington Dysfunction – his plan to get the government working for the people includes banning politicians from becoming lobbyists, co-sponsoring legislation to require Congress to pass all 12 appropriations bills by the start of the fiscal year in order to get paid, supporting the Empower Citizens Act to reform the public financing system, and increasing transparency and accessibility for his constituents.

• Natural Gas and Fracking – he plans to support legislation to require the natural gas industry to disclose all chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process, fight to repeal the Haliburton loophole and bring natural gas drilling under the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Safe Drinking Water Act.

Kevin Strouse, Democratic challenger for the 8th Congressional District.
Proposed legislation sponsored by Fitzpatrick:

- **SKILLS Act / Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act** [H.R. 803] - eliminates and streamlines dozens of overlapping federal programs, and helps connect out-of-work Americans with the job training programs they need. (passed House and Senate, signed into law)

- **Made in America Act** [H.R. 2664] - bipartisan legislation that would connect American consumers and consumers worldwide, to American manufacturers like never before by creating a definitive, standardized definition for designating American-made goods.

- **Northern Route Approval Act** [H.R. 3] - approves the Keystone XL pipeline. Removes legal and regulatory obstacles that could delay construction for years. (passed House 241-175)

- **Lowering Gasoline Prices to Fuel an America That Works Act** [H.R. 4899] - would implement a drill-smart, job-creation plan that would require the Administration to move forward with new offshore energy production in areas containing the most oil and natural gas resources and require the Administration to hold specific offshore lease sales that were delayed or canceled. (passed House 229-186)

- **America’s Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014** [H.R. 4457] - Strengthens the economy and spurs increased investment by permanently allowing small businesses to deduct, up-front, the cost of purchasing new equipment and property. (passed House 262-144)

- **Regulatory Improvement Act** [H.R. 4646] - creates a bipartisan commission to review regulations with the goal of modifying, consolidating or repealing outdated, duplicative or inefficient regulations.
Tom Wolf on the issues:

• Abortion Rights: Wolf supports women’s right to choose
• Health Care: Wolf would scrap elements of “Healthy PA” in favor of a traditional Medicaid expansion. He would support COBRA, he opposes the premium structure that would go into effect in 2016 for certain new Medicaid enrollees and the reduction of benefits being sought by Corbett for healthier adults in the traditional Medicaid program.
• Education: Wolf would increase spending on public schools by $1 billion and seek to increase the state’s share of public school spending to 50 percent of the overall cost from the current level of about 33 percent. Wolf would convene a commission to develop funding formulas for charter schools and cyber charters.
• Minimum Wage: Wolf supports increasing Pennsylvania’s minimum wage of $7.25 an hour, set by federal law, to $10.10 over a two-year period and indexing it to inflation.
• Public Pensions: Wolf would maintain a defined benefit pension program for public employees and oppose switching to a 401(k)-style plan. He opposes further delaying the state’s annual pension obligation payments and would consider supporting a taxpayer-backed bond to pay down pension debt.
• Natural Gas Policy: Wolf opposes a broad moratorium on natural gas drilling and opposes the leasing of more state land and state forest for drilling. Wolf supports a moratorium on drilling in the Delaware River Basin. Wolf also supports imposing a 5 percent severance tax on natural gas extraction.
• Gay Rights: Wolf would support legislation to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in matters of housing, employment and public accommodation. Wolf also supports recognition of same-sex marriage.
• Gun Rights: Wolf would sign legislation to expand background checks, ban assault weapon sales, require reporting of lost and stolen guns and allow municipal gun control ordinances.
• Liquor: Wolf opposes a system of private licensing, and instead would liberalize existing laws to encourage a more profitable state-run system.
• Taxes: Wolf supports increasing income taxes to offset reduction in school property taxes. He would seek to change Pennsylvania’s personal income tax rate to shift a bigger burden to higher earners, but he has not given full details. He would seek to close the “Delaware loophole” through a change in law called combined reporting. He would seek to lower the corporate net income tax rate, although he has not given full details.
• Marijuana: Wolf would sign legislation to legalize marijuana for broader medical purposes. He supports decriminalizing possession of less than 1 ounce of marijuana.
Polls, incumbent governor Tom Corbett is determined to win the race for reelection. Despite being tainted by scandals and falling behind Democratic opponent Tom Wolf in the polls, incumbent governor Tom Corbett is determined to win the race for reelection.

BY: DIAMOND SCHULER

This year Republican candidate Tom Corbett seeks to maintain his position as governor of Pennsylvania for a second term. Corbett was born and raised in Pennsylvania. He received his undergraduate degree from Lebanon Valley College. Later, he went on to St. Mary’s University School of Law in Texas where he received his law degree.

In 1971 – 1984 Corbett served in the United States in Pennsylvania’s National Guard 28th Infantry Division, where he successfully rose from a private to a captain during his 13 years of service.

Before Corbett’s induction as governor, he was appointed to fill the temporary role as Pennsylvania’s attorney general from 1995 to 1997. Later in 2004, Corbett was officially elected as attorney general and then reelected with more than 3 million votes, a record-breaking amount for any Pennsylvania republican candidate. As attorney general, he and others in his office successfully returned and saved Pennsylvanians over half a billion dollars in tax payments.

As Governor, for the first time in 40 years of Pennsylvania history, Corbett successfully cut down government spending or balancing state budgets. He claims to be a man that seeks to fight for the people of Pennsylvania and their rights.

He has also suffered several controversies during his period in office. The opposition has accused Corbett of “dragging his feet” during the infamous San Tursky trial to avoid angering his supporters that were Penn State alumni in the election year. Worse yet it has recently been brought to light that several of the employees that served under Corbett when he was attorney general and eventually became members of his cabinet after being elected as governor were exchanging pornographic emails during work time.

Corbett claimed he was not involved in this scandal and had no knowledge of it, but this has only served to make him appear incompetent in the eyes of many voters.

Corbett and his wife Susan have two children, Tom and Katherine. Tom is a graduate student at Carnegie Mellon University and Katherine is a prosecutor in the office of Philadelphia District Attorneys.

Where Corbett stands on state issues:

- Corbett refuses to raise taxes on PA working class families. This has been achieved by passing 4 budgets that are helping put Pennsylvanians back to work and maintaining more controlled government spending.
- He supports legislation to increase sales or income taxes to offset reductions to school property taxes.
- Corbett opposes abortion rights.
- While in office Corbett won approval for his “Healthy PA” plan. He seeks federal approval to pull back on the benefits for healthier adults in the regular Medicaid program.
- Corbett does not promise or seek to add more funding to public schools.
- Corbett believes increasing Pennsylvania’s minimum wage is not needed and would prefer for the federal government to set.
- Corbett opposes a taxpayer-backed bond to pay down pension debt.
- Corbett opposes the Environmental Protection Agency standards to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. He does however support the idea of helping coal fired power plants learn ways to reduce their pollution levels, and practice pollution control.
- Corbett opposes the leasing of any more state parks and forests for oil drilling.
- Corbett opposes the recognition of same-sex marriage in Pennsylvania however he allowed for it to become law after a fight in the federal courts.
- Corbett supports any legislation to ban discrimination that is based off of the sexual orientation or gender identity when it comes to matters of employment, public accommodations, as well as housing.
- While in office Corbett signed legislation to expand rights of someone with a gun to protect their self with deadly force.
- Corbett opposes legislation that seeks to expand gun purchase checks to more gun purchases, ban assault weapons, require that gun owners report lost or stolen guns, and grant municipalities the ability to enact control ordinances.
- Corbett supports term limits on public officials elected as attorney general and then eventually became a member of his cabinet after being elected as governor were exchanging pornographic emails during work-time. Corbett claimed he was not involved in this scandal and had no knowledge of it, but this has only served to make him appear incompetent in the eyes of many voters.
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Art
50th anniversary art show
BY: MICHIE HADDON
Concerts
Bucks celebrated its 50th anniversary with a commissioned art piece that featured art and music inspired by the college’s very culturally-rooted history.

Dr. Stephanie Shipp, president of Bucks, welcomed the attendees who gathered in the Gateway Auditorium and the Linksz Pavilion on Oct. 31 to celebrate the many accomplishments of the college, praising the community for its support in fostering arts and culture.

“Our roots are in a county that welcomes artists and musicians,” said Shipp.

The festivities began with a modern jazz suite called “Portraits from the Pub,” composed by Associate Music Professor Jeff Baumester. The BC3 Jazz Tentet, featuring faculty and prominent local musicians, performed the seven original jazz songs, which Baumester called a hidden tribute to Stella Tyler.

Quilter Ann Gudde stood alongside professor Barbara Korh as she described the inspiration behind their “Cooper Homestead Collaboration.” This collaboration included a quilt by Gudde depicting the Cooper Homestead building and five collages by Korh portraying the historical building through the use of handmade paper. Professor Mark Sfiri then presented his 12-foot tall lathe-turned and carved wood sculpture called “Building Blocks,” he described as an abstract piece representing the building blocks of knowledge. “Both works, each in their own way, speak to the potential in each individual for creative, critical, and beautiful interactions with the material world,” said Sfiri.

Support the troops, buy art
BY: CENTURION STAFF
The “Proud to Be An American” art exhibit lead the charge with a variety of vibrant, patriotic works from local artists, helping to raise $3,000 for the Wounded Warriors Project. The exhibit is on display in The Gallery on the Lower Bucks campus from Sept. 8 through Nov. 20.

“I am pleased to report that between the artist entrance fees, a raffle held at the reception on Sept. 12 and a donation from the Lower Bucks campus arm of the Veterans Club, we were able to donate $1000.00 to the Wounded Warriors Project to assist our veterans who have proudly and heroically served our country,” said James Sell, Executive Director of Lower Bucks campus.

The Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit organization that helps wounded U.S. military veterans and their families.

Receiving an unprecedented $100,000 for the first exhibition of the 14.5 academic year, James Sell showed great exhilaration for the opening of “Proud to Be An American”. “We had to extend the gallery walls down another hallway to accommodate the amount of art we have received for Proud To Be An American,” said Sell.

Sell and his colleagues felt the greatest challenge for this exhibit would be getting enough “diverse interpretation of the [patriotic] theme,” from the local artists.

“Our visions were realized as the artists really have outdone themselves with the pieces we received — making it a truly unique and remarkable visual experience,” explained Sell.

The myriad of artistic endeavors, which fill the walls of the Gallery, captured moments of victory, loss, patriotic duty, as well as the darker side of modern warfare.

Looking at a piece made from World War II newspaper clippings and vintage photographs of heroes standing with their wives and girl friends at the end of the war filled one’s chest with pride.

“You really get a patriotic feel when you look at these paintings” said Alfredo Ramos, 20, Lower Bucks nursing major.

Not all of the pieces were celebrations of victory, however. Some paid homage to fallen heroes.

One photo, a navy sailor presenting flowers to a mother at her fallen son’s funeral, demonstrated the compassion and brotherhood between the military family.

“It makes you feel proud as an American, but also a little sad,” said Andrew Mysovitch, 20, music major.

Other pieces captured the pride and heroism of local veterans whose tours of duty ranged from the Korean War to Desert Storm while others capture a darker side to America’s modern endeavors.

Towards the end of the exhibit, many modern pieces of art presented the countless conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, displaying quotes such as “I never want to return” and “I am afraid to go home, because they may force me back.”

One of the many artists whose work is on display is local representative artist, Gloria Young Smith. Starting in the medical field, Smith worked at Mercy Hospital in Rockville Center, N.Y. where she dedicated more than 10 years in the field, afterwards beginning freelance work with her art.

Smith has contributed many works towards the art community and teaches art to others who are equally motivated. She also continues to expand in her craft and it clear how greatly the talent is transferred from brush to canvas on the display.

“In addition to individual artists, we have a lot of participation from artists groups such as the Artists of Bristol on the Delaware, Ardsbridge, Artists of Yardley and the New Hope Art League. So we get folks coming from all over lower Bucks County and beyond,” said Sell.

There were no works of art submitted for this exhibit by Bucks students according to Sell but some have in the past and he encourages students to contribute to future exhibits.

“The entrance fee is $10.00 and all art prospective are available on our website. We’d love to see more student participation,” said Sell.

An ex-bomber comes out of retirement to track down the gangsters that took everything from him. Starring: Keanu Reeves, Michael Nyqvist, and Alfie Allen.

“Gone Girl” is a spell binding masterpiece about a marriage gone terribly, terribly wrong from one of the most critically acclaimed suspense writers of our time, New York Times bestseller Gillian Flynn. Now a feature film staring Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike.

Quitter Ann Gudde stood alongside professor Barbara Korh as she described the inspiration behind their “Cooper Homestead Collaboration.” This collaboration included a quilt by Gudde depicting the Cooper Homestead building and five collages by Korh portraying the historical building through the use of handmade paper. Professor Mark Sfiri then presented his 12-foot tall lathe-turned and carved wood sculpture called, “Building Blocks,” he described as an abstract piece representing the building blocks of knowledge. “Both works, each in their own way, speak to the potential in each individual for creative, critical, and beautiful interactions with the material world,” said Sfiri.

“We are very fortunate to have among us such artists who can realize this potential in such various media but with equally compelling expressions of beauty.”1

1 "Gone Girl" is a spellbinding masterpiece about a marriage that goes terribly, terribly wrong from one of the most critically acclaimed suspense writers of our time, New York Times bestseller Gillian Flynn. Now a feature film starring Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike.
What Bucks loves about horror

BY: MICHAEL GIRTON
Centurion Staff

Around Halloween the horror genre has always expanded from its usual niche group to grab the interest of everyone, drawing all sorts of people to movies, television shows and video games designed specifically to scare them to the point of near insanity, so it felt only natural during this eerie time of year for the Centurion to take a look at peoples’ particular interests in the always present but ever-changing genre.

When asked about their interests in horror films names like “Sinister” and “Saw” are often used amongst the students at Bucks. Many of them agreed to agree that horror films today are more serious with better effects, allowing for more realistic and frightening scenarios—though they do sometimes fall into the trap of cheap jump scares.

Harrison Venema, a 22-year-old Business major believes the classic horror films are loved more for nostalgia than quality, and looking back today, many seem cheesy and not legitimately scary. Other students agreed that some of these older movies look goofy and haven’t aged well. “Atmosphere and pacing are the most important things in horror,” says Venema. “A good horror movie shouldn’t be scary when you watch it, it should be scary when you’re at home trying to fall asleep.”

Other students like Jose Fabian, 20-year-old Liberal Arts major, still enjoy the older films, claiming they have more story to them than the newer films. Of course that doesn’t stop him from enjoying the cheesy slasher films like “Freddy vs. Jason”, though he considers these movies much more funny than scary.

When it comes to horror games the term survival horror is very popular, with names like “Amnesia” and “Silent Hill” taking the list for student gamers. “The best horror games are the ones that make the player feel helpless and oppressed to create a true sense of dread” said Peter Davis, 20-year-old Computer Science major. He feels that most game developers fail to do this since the horror genre seems to fundamentally contradict what most video games set out to do. “Most video games work to empower the player, and most players are seeking empowerment for that reason” commented Davis. “A lot of horror games are simply first person shooters that have been doled up to appear scary. I think it is a problem because I feel that the true essence of horror lies in the psychological aspect… Newer horror games are trying to empower the player to reach a larger demographic, and tend to move out of the genre because of that.”

When it comes to the television screen some students recall watching
Transfering? PTK can help

BY: BRIANNE SHEAHAN
Continued Staff

For students whose time at Bucks is drawing to a close, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) is holding a transfer orientation, run by students, to help make the transition to a four-year college easier.

The transfer orientation will be held on Nov. 11, 6 p.m. at Newtown Campus in the Solarium.

PTK’s goal is to help students by showing them how to utilize online resources for a successful transfer.

The goal of holding a student-run event on transferring is to help the students succeed in their goals by helping them understand the process of transfer in a more logical fashion, explained Caroline Libman, a student and organizer of the transfer orientation. Libman and other students felt sharing their stories and transfer experiences would provide Bucks students with a better perspective and understanding of the transfer process.

“It seemed like a nice idea to share our experiences with other students so they can learn from our mistakes and have a better understanding of the transfer process, leading to a better result,” said Libman.

PTK feels transferring to a larger university can be made easy with the right steps. In the orientation PTK will explain the proper steps to help students get closer to their dream school and guide students through a plethora of websites that can make their transition more enjoyable.

A one-hour orientation may seem like an eternity but PTK’s orientation can save Bucks students time and money by leading them to sites offering virtual tours of universities and colleges, saving them from the hassles of college visits.

For students whose greatest obstacle of transferring to a four-year school is the price tag, the orientation will also direct students to transfer scholarships to help them succeed.

For more information about Bucks’ transfer services, students should visit bucks.edu/student/transfer.

What Bucks loves about horror

Continued from pg. 9

“What doesn’t like an end of the world zombie apocalypse scenario?” Immordino said.

Other students like Venema say “The Walking Dead” isn’t true horror for that exact reason. He believes that while the whole zombie apocalypse idea was originally scary it’s become so overused that it’s actually romanticized, and that people actually think living in a zombie infested world would be exciting. Many students seem to agree with him. Fabian thinks that movies like “Warm Bodies” suggest that we may have taken the whole zombie fad a bit too far, and that it should be dying out soon.

Despite their differing interests on the genre all students agree that the horror genre will never completely disappear. It will of course fluctuate in people’s interest and in what types are popular, but it will always be there for anyone looking to get their heart racing.

Simply put by Venema, “People like being scared.”

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Ebola quarantine sparks debate

BY: GABRIEL ORTIZ
Centurion Staff

Among mounting concerns over the worst Ebola outbreak in history, U.S. officials have employed a more proactive approach in their latest response to the growing global crisis. So far, four cases have been diagnosed in the U.S, resulting in one death—Thomas Eric Duncan, a Liberian man who travelled via plane from Liberia to Dallas. In West Africa, over 9,900 have been contracted the virus and nearly 5,000 have died, according to the World Health Organization. The general consensus around the world is that the U.S. officials, along with other world leaders, have not done enough to contain, and ultimately stop the outbreak.

"Stopping Ebola is a priority for the United States. I’ve said that this is as important a national security priority for my team as anything else that’s out there. We will do our part. We will continue to lead, but this has to be a priority for everybody else," said President Barack Obama at a recent United Nations meeting. Earlier this month, the U.S. deployed military personnel to West Africa in an attempt to manage the outbreak in the place of its origins. The president spoke of the responsibility he feels America has in helping those affected in Africa. "I want you to know that you are not alone. We’re working urgently to get you the help you need. And we will not stop, we will not relent until we halt this epidemic once and for all."

The president as well as the Center for Disease Control (CDC), has denied the possibility of bans placed on flights at this time, according to the Director of the CDC, Tom Frieden, who spoke on Oct. 20. "We want to do something that protects Americans, not something that either is done for show or something that won’t have an impact," said Frieden. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has also voiced his disapproval of any bans on travel at this time, citing restrictions could have negative effects on trade for several governments in Africa. "You isolate them, you can cause unrest in the country," Fauci told Fox News. "It’s conceivable that governments could fall if you just isolate them completely."

In an attempt to manage efforts in the U.S. to contain the disease, Obama appointed Ron Klain to the position of Ebola response coordinator. In this new role, Klain, a former chief of staff to both Vice President Al Gore and Vice President Joe Biden, will oversee and manage the federal government’s overall response to the Ebola crisis. Since his appointment though, Klain has been criticized his lack of response to the recent clashes between state and federal authorities.

Despite strong resistance and criticism from White House officials and the medical experts, New York and New Jersey officials have initiated strict mandatory quarantine policies on the state level. New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and New York Governor Chris Cuomo both announced these new mandates on Oct. 24, ignoring pleas from White House administration. According to a statement issued by the White House following a meeting between Obama and the Ebola response team, Obama said, "these measures must recognize that health care workers are an indispensable element of our effort to lead the international community to contain and ultimately end this outbreak at its source, and should be crafted so as not to unnecessarily discourage those workers from serving."

This is the hospital in Koroma, Sierra Leone, West Africa, where the Ebola virus samples are tested to see if someone has the virus or not. This photo was taken in June 2014.

PHOTO CREDIT: LEAH SHAR / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
A first round playoff exit should not overshadow the Bucks Women’s Volleyball team’s recent success in making the playoffs for the first time since entering the NJCAA’s Region XIX.

The team is led by former assistant coach and now head coach of two years, Stephanie Recklau, and assistant coach, Alyson Stark.

When asked what got her team this far Recklau said, “This team is a dedicated group who never once gave up and continued to improve upon their individual skills and their team unity throughout the season.”

“As a young program, we set our sights every year on being better than we were the previous year, as well as making the playoffs with a record of 500.” The girls surpassed those expectations this year.

Some of Coach Recklau’s “Standout Stars” of the season have been her returning sophomores:

• Captain Dominique Sovani from Central High School
• Captain Jessica Gwiazdowki from Villa Joseph Marie
• Captain Sarah Alu from Central Bucks South
• Rima Parkhomchuk from Neshaminy High School

“They are without a doubt the strongest returning class we have seen at Bucks in the past several years.” said Coach Recklau.

The strong sophomore women have “welcomed the freshman and provided a core of stability for the program that has allowed us to be as successful as we were this season.”

The women left the regular season with a Region record of 11-9 and started their playoff journey on Tuesday Oct. 21 at Bergen Community College.

Recklau stated, “We are the underdog in this game but my expectation is that the team fights for every point, never gives up, plays their game, and above all has fun and enjoys the moment.” Unfortunately the women did not make it past the first round losing to very strong Bergen Community College 3-0.

“It was not a great outcome but it was a great season,” said Recklau.

Sports Briefs

Men’s Baseball looking for players

Men’s Baseball had a meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 21, for all students interested in playing in the upcoming fall and spring seasons.

If you are interested in playing but were unsure or unable to make it to the meeting, please contact Soteris Bouroughas at his e-mail, Sotis.Bouroughas@bucks.edu.

Men’s Soccer off to the playoffs

The men’s soccer team ended their regular season with an over-all record of 15-2 and a conference record of 10-0. The team will start the playoffs on Saturday, Oct. 25. All Bucks students are encouraged to come out and show their support.

Basketball season tipping off

Both men’s and women’s basketball will take the court on Nov. 6 at Bergen. The women tip off at 7 p.m. and the men tip off at 5 p.m. As always, all Bucks students are encouraged to come and show their support.

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